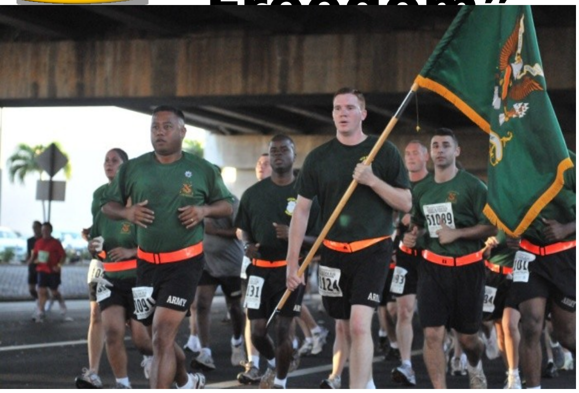
2010 Great Aloha Run: “The Sounds of Freedom”



The 728th Military Police Battalion “Warfighters” proudly represented the Military Police Corps within the traditions of honor and community support in the 2010 Great Aloha Run. Monday, February 15, 2010 began with an early morning formation at 0315 in front of the Watchdog Brigade headquarters building on Schofield Barracks. The Warfighters proudly fell into formation, led by the Battalion Commander, LTC Ross T. Guieb, and the Battalion Command Sergeant Major, CSM Gerald B. Stegemeier. The massive formation consisted of Soldiers from the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment “Warhounds,” the 13th Military Police Detachment “Enforcers,” the 58th Military Police Company “Workhorses,” and the 552nd Military Police Company “Peacekeepe

After the initial formation, the 120 Soldiers representing the 728th Military Police Battalion filed into buses, rode to the Capital Building in Honolulu, and then assembled as part of the USARPAC formation. The USARPAC formation, led by the USARPAC Commanding General, LTG Benjamin R. Mixon, represented the United States Army in the “Sounds of Freedom” division of the Great Aloha Run for military units.

The USARPAC formation was assembled with units of the 25th Infantry Division and the 8th Theater Sustainment Command. The 8th Theater Sustainment Command formation marched to the ready line, led proudly by the Commanding General, MG Michael Terry. Following the opening remarks, the Color and Guideons waving marked the official start of the 8.15 mile Great Aloha Run. The Soldiers of the 728th Military Police Battalion stepped off with cadences, running in step with the “Sounds of Freedom” formation through the Honolulu streets to Aloha Stadium.

The 25th Annual Great Aloha Run is a charitable event that began in 1985. In the last 25 years, the Great Aloha Run has raised more than $8 million dollars in funding; that has supported hundreds of local organizations within the local community. This year, the Great Aloha Run, including over 20,000 participants, contributed to over a hundred local organizations including Carole Kai Charities, the United Cerebral Palsy Association, and several Military Morale, Welfare, and Recreation offices. This year, the “Sounds of Freedom” Division of the Great Aloha Run was comprised of over 3,000 military members from all branches of service.

The “Sounds of Freedom” formations completed the Great Aloha Run
at Aloha Stadium, where participants were greeted with refreshments and commemorative Great Aloha Run Shirts. Finally, the Warfighter Battalion returned to Schofield Barracks via bus, completing a successful and motivational day and representing the Military Police Corps with pride.

CPL Bland confidently stated “It was my first event like this; the atmosphere was exciting. We kept the motivation and everybody that started the race…finished together. It was good seeing all the branches working together as a whole. If we had to, we could all do it again…Warfighters Lead the Way!

1LT Thomas J. Banasik, 728th MP BN S3 Special Projects

Warfighters: “One Team, One Fight”